

COUNTY OF RAVALLI



Ravalli County Commissioners
215 South 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840

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D.N.R.C.

December 3, 2007

John Tubbs, Administrator
Water Resources Division
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
P.O. Box 201601
Helena, MT 59620-1601


Dear Mr. Tubbs:


We are aware of the state initiative to contract with the United States Bureau of Reclamation for water stored in Hungry Horse reservoir to support new consumptive water uses in the Clark Fork River basin as well as uses based on water rights junior to the lower basin hydropower water rights.


The Ravalli County Commission sees no problem with this initiative. Given the population growth occurring in the basin, which is expected to continue for the foreseeable future, provision must be made to provide for new water demands. Acquiring water now stored in Hungry Horse for use by Montanans appears to be a reasonable way to proceed.


We ask that the Clark Fork Task Force and the DNRC continue to keep Ravalli County informed as this initiative progresses. Thank you.

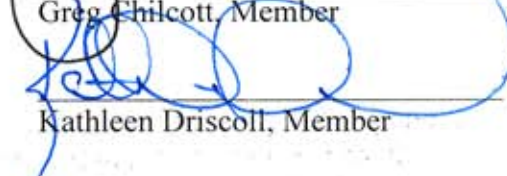
Sincerely,


James E. Rokosch, Chairman


Carlotta Grandstaff, Vice-Chairman


Alan Thompson, Member


Greg Chilcott, Member


Kathleen Driscoll, Member